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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PPT-01 SCA-01 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 CPR-01 VO-03 /048 W
----------130612Z 092164 /13
R 110750Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7213
INFO USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 6433

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OTRA, PINT, PFOR, UR, US
SUBJECT: DISCRIMINATORY TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AGAINST EMBOFF AND WIFE

1. DURING MAY 10 CALL ON MFA/USA DIVISION DEPUTY CHIEF FEDOSEYEV, POLITICAL COUNSELOR ORALLY PROTESTED FACT THAT DURING 19 HOURS' DETENTION OF EMBOFF PAUL SMITH AND WIFE IN TASHKENT MAY 9 SMITH WAS REPEATEDLY DENIED TELEPHONIC ACCESS TO EMBASSY. FEDOSEYEV SAID HE NOT AWARE OF INCIDENT, AND WOULD LOOK INTO IT.

2. ON MAY 8 SMITHS ARRIVED IN ASHKABAD ON LEAVE. INTOURIST OFFICIALS INFORMED THEM THAT BECAUSE OF MAY 9 HOLIDAY, SMITHS WOULD HAVE TO DEPART ASHKABAD THE NEXT DAY FOR URGENCH (VIA TASKKENT).

3. SMITHS ARRIVED IN TASHKENT AT 0100 MAY 9 AND WERE MET BY TWO INTOURIST OFFICIALS AND TWO UNIDENTIFIED CIVILIANS. MR. AND MRS. SMITH WERE TOLD THAT THE MINISTRY OF FORIGN AFFAIRS IN MOSCOW HAD ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS THAT THE SMITHS MUST BE SENT DIRECTLY TO MOSCOW "BECAUSE THEIR PASSPORTS WERE NOT IN ORDER." MR. SMITH POINTED OUT THAT THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS HAD ISSUED THEM VISAS TO VISIT ALL OF THE CITIES ON HIS TRIP, WHICH HAD BEEN ARRANGED BY INTOURIST. THE ONLY RESPONSE FROM THE TASHKENT OFFICIALS WAS THAT THEY WERE OPERATING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN MOSCOW.
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4. DURING THE PERIOD FROM 0100 TO 2000, MR. AND MRS. SMITH WERE DETAINED UNDER SURVEILLANCE IN A SECOND FLOOR WAITING ROOM AT THE TASHKENT AIR TERMINAL. THEY WERE INSTRUCTED NOT TO LEAVE THE SECOND FLOOR WAITING ROOM AREA, AND THEIR REQUEST FOR A HOTEL ROOM UNTIL THE FLIGHT TO MOSCOW WAS REJECTED.

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5. DURING THIS PERIOD, MR. SMITH ON THREE OCCASIONS REQUESTED THE USE OF A TELEPHONE -- TWICE TO CONTACT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW AND ONCE TO CALL THE MFA OFFICE IN TASHKENT. ALL OF THESE REQUESTS WERE REJECTED. THE INITIAL REASON GIVEN TO HIM WAS THAT ON ONE WOULD BE AT WORK ON THE HOLIDAY. WHEN PRESSED BY MR. SMITH THEY RESPONDED, "WE WILL GET YOU TO MOSCOW AND YOU CAN CALL FROM THERE."

6. EMBASSY WILL ON MAY 11 FOLLOW UP WITH WRITTEN NOTE OF PROTEST.

7. COMMENT: HERETOFORE, SMITH, LIKE HIS P&C PREDECESSOR ATTACHED TO THE EXHIBIT, HAS BEEN REQUESTING TRAVEL PERMISSION THROUGH THE AUSPICES OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INTOURIST, AS DO ALL EXHIBIT PERSONNEL. HENCEFORTH, WE WILL ENSURE THAT SMITH FILES TRAVEL NOTES THROUGH THE EMABSSY.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRAVEL CONTROLS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL HARASSMENT
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Sent Date: 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW06433
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770168-0942
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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SAS ID: 2570230
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISCRIMINATORY TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AGAINST EMBOFF AND WIFE
TAGS: OTRA, PINT, PFOR, UR, US, (SMITH, PAUL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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